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NEWS RELEASE

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FATAL BICYCLE COLLISION

8200 BLOCK OF SOUTH RITA ROAD

On February 22, 2022, Tucson Police and Tucson Fire personnel were dispatched to the 8200 block of S. Rita Rd. for a report of a serious-injury collision involving a bicyclist. Upon arrival, the bicyclist was pronounced deceased just after 2:00 p.m. The driver of a white 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee was transported to St. Joseph's Hospital with life-threatening injuries. Traffic Unit Detectives were called to the scene and continued the investigation.

Interviews conducted by officers and detectives determined that the bicyclist was on the sidewalk - riding southbound on the eastside of Rita Road. The Jeep was traveling northbound on Rita Road when it veered off the roadway and onto the sidewalk, striking the bicyclist. According to interviews, the Jeep exhibited reckless driving behavior prior to the collision. An officer from the DUI Unit responded to the scene and determined that the driver of the Jeep was impaired.

The bicyclist has been identified as a male in his 30s and his family has yet to be notified. The driver of the Jeep, a 22-year-old male, is still in life-threatening condition at the hospital. The investigation will remain open – pending the condition/release of the driver of the Jeep.

Fatalities Year to Date:

For 2021 - 10 For 2022 - 20
Pedestrian - 5 Pedestrian - 8
Bicycle - 0 Bicycle - 1
Motorcycle - 2 Vehicle - 3 Vehicle - 7

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